

Description of a new genus of Gorgoniadæ.

By J. E. GRAY, Esq., F.R.S., P.B.S. &c.

The Coral here described was sent to me by Sir John Richardson.

It is nearly allied to *Gorgonia*, but the branches are erect, clavate, and very rarely subdivided. The bark is very thick, formed of numerous close diverging cells radiating round a very thin, small, black compressed axis, each of the cells ending in a conical prominent tubercle closely covered externally with red calcareous spicula. The expanded base and the base of the stem and the interspaces between the cells are covered with smaller red calcareous granules.

This genus may be named and characterized thus:—

GONIGORIA.

Coral clavate, slightly branched; the root dilated; axis horns black, compressed, thin; bark thick, calcareous, covered with conical tubercles, each covered externally with numerous close red spicula.

GONIGORIA CLAVATA.

Coral clavate, rounded at the end, simple, or rarely forked.

Hab. —?

The coral is almost two inches high, and the thickest part is about one-third of an inch in diameter.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.*

Note on a species of Francolin.

By Dr. NICHOLSON, H.E.I.C. Medical Service.

While in Arabia in February 1836, I proceeded into the interior as far as the town of Moosa, about twenty miles to the eastward of Mocha in Yemen, accompanied by Captain Bull of the Indian Navy, in quest of plants and other objects of natural history, as well as with the view of seeing the country. Having delivered our introduction to the chief of that district, he assigned us quarters in his palace and appointed an Arab huntsman to attend us—as well to show us game, as to be a guardian to our persons. We started at daylight, mounted on asses, and pursued our course to the eastward for about six miles, when at the foot of a range of hills, in a jungle or *Acacia arabica*, we came on several large coveys of guinea-fowl. We soon found that it was of no use to attempt to get a shot by walking after them, as they soon left us; so we followed, and whenever they entered a thick piece of jungle we ran up in time to get a shot at them, being pressed to take wing. In this way we made a very good bag, to which we afterwards added a bustard (differing from the Indian) and several small hares, which were very abundant. At the first shot I brought down, as I supposed, a couple of guinea-fowl, right and left, but on picking them up found that one of them was a fine species of Francolin.

Bill and legs coral-red, the latter with blunt knobs for spurs; the top of the head, a line under the eye from the angle of the mouth, and a patch below it, black; round the eye and some way down the